

## News from SALEM COUNTY

## Office of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 21, 2009

## SALEM COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL REORGANIZATION AND PURGING PROJECT GRANT UPDATE

(SALEM, NJ)—Freeholder Bruce Bobbitt, Chair of the County Public Works Committee, today announced an update to the Salem County shared services project coordinated by the Salem County Office of Archives and Records Management.

"This project is meant to assist our municipalities and county departments with modernizing records management and at the same time save the already stretched tax dollar," said Freeholder Bobbitt.

The funding for this project is from the New Jersey Division of Archives and Management (NJDARM) Public Archives and Records Infrastructure (PARIS) grant program totaling \$223,500. Some of the benefits are records reorganization and include expired records purging reclaiming space, more efficient records access, records retention compliance and easing court-ordered records discovery. The Salem County Office of Archives and Records Management collaboratively assists county departments and municipalities in streamlining records management through innovative technology. Fourteen municipalities are participating in the program.

"The costs savings are estimated at \$223,158 annually for the municipalities, which in this day of frugal budgets is outstanding," said Freeholder Bobbitt. "So far 272 cubic yards (7,338 cubic feet) or 220,014 pounds or 110 tons of records are slated for destruction."

The PARIS Grants Program is funded by fees collected by county clerks and registrars for the recording of certain documents, including deeds and mortgages. A portion of these funds (40 percent) is reserved annually for the local government records management grant program to be awarded annually to county and municipal governments.